

INITIATIVE 690

I, Ralph Munro, Secretary of State of the State of Washington and custodian of its seal, hereby certify that, according to the records on file in my office, the attached copy of Initiative Measure No. 690 to the People is a true and correct copy as it was received by this office.

LEAGUE OF WASHINGTON TAXPAYERS (LWT)
INITIATIVE TO THE PEOPLE
"VEHICLE EXCISE TAX REVISION AND REDUCTION"

1 AN ACT Relating to vehicle registration and taxation; amending RCW
2 46.09.070, 46.10.040, 46.10.075, and 46.10.080; adding new sections to
3 chapter 46.16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 46.68 RCW; creating
4 a new section; and repealing RCW 46.09.110, 46.16.060, 46.16.061,
5 46.16.063, 46.16.065, 46.16.068, 46.16.070, 46.16.071, 46.16.079,
6 46.16.085, 46.16.090, 46.16.135, 46.16.505, 46.68.030, 46.68.035,
7 82.44.010, 82.44.015, 82.44.020, 82.44.023, 82.44.025, 82.44.030,
8 82.44.041, 82.44.060, 82.44.065, 82.44.080, 82.44.090, 82.44.100,
9 82.44.110, 82.44.120, 82.44.130, 82.44.140, 82.44.150, 82.44.155,
10 82.44.157, 82.44.160, 82.44.170, 82.44.180, 82.50.010, 82.50.060,
11 82.50.090, 82.50.170, 82.50.250, 82.50.400, 82.50.405, 82.50.410,
12 82.50.425, 82.50.435, 82.50.440, 82.50.460, 82.50.510, 82.50.520,
13 82.50.530, 82.50.540, and 82.50.901.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
16 to read as follows:

17 (1) All existing excise tax schedules, fees, and rates for all
18 vehicles, whether for personal or business use, are repealed and

1 replaced with a new and revised fee schedule. This includes repealing
2 the value code, the depreciation factor, and the tax rate.

3 (2) The new registration and licensing cost schedule becomes
4 effective January 1, 1999.

5 (3) All vehicles, regardless of the year, value, make, or model
6 qualify for the same licensing fee applicable to their respective
7 defined categories.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
9 to read as follows:

10 Vehicles must be registered for two-year periods with the exception
11 of heavy motor vehicles and buses, which are designated as category I
12 vehicles. These vehicles may be licensed for a one-year, three-fourths
13 year, one-half year, or one-fourth year period if the registered owner
14 provides documentation of the time frame for which licensing is being
15 applied. Otherwise, the owner of a category I vehicle applying for an
16 annual license must pay the two-year registration fee. Registration
17 fees for category I vehicles are determined by gross weight in pounds
18 (empty), starting at eight thousand pounds and increasing by two
19 thousand pound increments up to one hundred five thousand five hundred
20 pounds. The basic registration fee of one hundred ten dollars applies
21 to all category I vehicles between eight thousand and ten thousand
22 pounds, and as the vehicle weight increases by two thousand pounds or
23 an increment thereof, the registration fee increases by fifteen
24 dollars. The three-fourths year fee is the annual fee reduced by
25 twenty-five percent, the one-half year fee by fifty percent, and the
26 one-fourth year fee by seventy-five percent. A two dollar and fifty
27 cent license fee applies for all category I vehicles that are licensed
28 in the state of Washington.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
30 to read as follows:

31 Personal use trailers, homemade trailers, box utility trailers,
32 boat trailers, business trailers, and horse trailers are designated as
33 category II vehicles and must be licensed for a required two-year
34 period. Registration fees are determined from the single or double
35 axle weight tables that follow:

Single Axle Weight Table

<u>Weight</u>	<u>Fee</u>
400 pounds or less	\$10.00
401 to 1199 pounds	\$15.00
1200 to 2800 pounds	\$30.00 plus
\$5.00 for each additional 250 pounds over the 2800 pound weight category.	

Double Axle Weight Table

<u>Weight</u>	<u>Fee</u>
2500 to 3499 pounds	\$35.00
3500 to 4999 pounds	\$45.00
5000 to 7999 pounds	\$70.00

A plate fee of one dollar fifty cents must be paid for each trailer in this category.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

Motor homes are designated as category III vehicles. Registration fees are based on the total length of the unit as determined by the following table:

<u>Vehicle Length</u>	<u>Annual Registration Fee</u>
10 feet and under	\$50.00
11 to 15 feet	\$75.00
Units exceeding 15 feet will pay a registration fee of six dollars per foot.	

The department shall make seven-day trip permits available to motor home owners at a charge of twenty dollars per permit. No more than four such permits may be issued in any one twelve-month period to the motor home unit. If a trip designation is not chosen, all motor home registrations are for a period of two years.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW to read as follows:

Passenger cars and pick-ups are designated as category IV, and must pay an annual registration fee of thirty-five dollars, which fee

1 includes plates. Passenger cars and pick-ups must be licensed for a
2 period of two years.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 Motorcycles, off-road vehicles, and snowmobiles are designated as
6 category V, and must be licensed under the following registration fee
7 structure:

8	<u>Vehicle Type</u>	<u>Annual Registration Fee</u>
9	Motorcycles	\$30.00
10	Off-road vehicles	\$10.00
11	Snowmobiles	\$10.00

12 Motorcycles, off-road vehicles, and snowmobiles must be licensed for a
13 period of two years.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 The clean air flat tax shall remain at the current rate as of
17 January 1, 1997, and will not be increased.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
19 to read as follows:

20 The department of licensing shall publish and make available
21 registration fee schedules for all vehicle categories, I through V.

22 The department of licensing shall adopt rules to implement sections
23 1 through 9 of this act.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** A new section is added to chapter 46.68 RCW
25 to read as follows:

26 All vehicle registration moneys collected by the department of
27 licensing will be disbursed in the following manner: Eight percent to
28 criminal justice, eighty percent to the motor vehicle fund for highway
29 maintenance and construction, and twelve percent to the general fund.

30 **Sec. 10.** RCW 46.09.070 and 1997 c 241 s 1 are each amended to read
31 as follows:

32 (1) Application for (~~annual~~) biennial or temporary ORV use
33 permits shall be made to the department or its authorized agent in such

manner and upon such forms as the department shall prescribe and shall state the name and address of each owner of the off-road vehicle.

(2) An application for ~~((an annual))~~ a biennial permit shall be signed by at least one owner, and shall be accompanied by ~~((a))~~ the fee ~~((of five dollars))~~ prescribed by section 6 of this act. Upon receipt of the ~~((annual))~~ permit application and the application fee, the off-road vehicle shall be assigned a use permit number tag or decal, which shall be affixed to the off-road vehicle in a manner prescribed by the department. The ~~((annual))~~ biennial permit is valid for a period of ~~((one))~~ two years and is renewable ~~((each year))~~ at the end of that period in such manner as the department may prescribe for an additional period of ~~((one))~~ two years upon payment of a renewal fee ~~((of five dollars))~~ prescribed by section 6 of this act.

Any person acquiring an off-road vehicle for which ~~((an annual))~~ a permit has been issued who desires to continue to use the permit must, within fifteen days of the acquisition of the off-road vehicle, make application to the department or its authorized agent for transfer of the permit, and the application shall be accompanied by a transfer fee of one dollar and twenty-five cents.

(3) A temporary use permit is valid for sixty days. Application for a temporary permit shall be accompanied by a fee of two dollars. The permit shall be carried on the vehicle at all times during its operation in the state.

(4) Except as provided in RCW 46.09.050, any out-of-state operator of an off-road vehicle shall, when operating in this state, comply with this chapter, and if an ORV use permit is required under this chapter, the operator shall obtain ~~((an annual))~~ a biennial or temporary permit and tag.

Sec. 11. RCW 46.10.040 and 1997 c 241 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

Application for registration shall be made to the department in the manner and upon forms the department prescribes, and shall state the name and address of each owner of the snowmobile to be registered, and shall be signed by at least one such owner, and shall be accompanied by ~~((an annual))~~ a biennial registration fee ~~((to be established by the commission, after consultation with the committee and any state-wide snowmobile user groups. The fee shall be fifteen dollars pending action by the commission to increase the fee. The commission shall~~

1 ~~increase the fee by two dollars and fifty cents effective September 30,~~
2 ~~1996, and the commission shall increase the fee by another two dollars~~
3 ~~and fifty cents effective September 30, 1997. After the fee increase~~
4 ~~effective September 30, 1997, the commission shall not increase the~~
5 ~~fee))~~ prescribed by section 6 of this act. Upon receipt of the
6 application and the application fee, the snowmobile shall be registered
7 and a registration number assigned, which shall be affixed to the
8 snowmobile in a manner provided in RCW 46.10.070.

9 The registration (~~((provided in))~~) issued under this section (~~((shall~~
10 ~~be))~~) is valid for a period of (~~((one))~~) two years. At the end of the
11 period of registration, every owner of a snowmobile in this state shall
12 renew his or her registration in the manner the department prescribes,
13 for an additional period of (~~((one))~~) two years, upon payment of the
14 (~~((annual))~~) registration fee (~~((as determined by the commission))~~)
15 prescribed by section 6 of this act.

16 Any person acquiring a snowmobile already validly registered under
17 the provisions of this chapter must, within ten days of the acquisition
18 or purchase of the snowmobile, make application to the department for
19 transfer of the registration, and the application shall be accompanied
20 by a transfer fee of one dollar and twenty-five cents.

21 A snowmobile owned by a resident of another state or Canadian
22 province where registration is not required by law may be issued a
23 nonresident registration permit valid for not more than sixty days.
24 Application for the permit shall state the name and address of each
25 owner of the snowmobile to be registered and shall be signed by at
26 least one owner and shall be accompanied by a registration fee of five
27 dollars. The registration permit shall be carried on the vehicle at
28 all times during its operation in this state.

29 The registration fees provided in this section shall be in lieu of
30 any personal property or excise tax heretofore imposed on snowmobiles
31 by this state or any political subdivision thereof, and no city,
32 county, or other municipality, and no state agency shall hereafter
33 impose any other registration or license fee on any snowmobile in this
34 state.

35 The department shall make available a pair of uniform decals
36 consistent with the provisions of RCW 46.10.070. In addition to the
37 registration fee provided in this section the department shall charge
38 each applicant for registration the actual cost of the decal. The

1 department shall make available replacement decals for a fee equivalent
2 to the actual cost of the decals.

3 **Sec. 12.** RCW 46.10.075 and 1991 sp.s. c 13 s 9 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 There is created a snowmobile account within the state treasury.
6 (~~((Snowmobile registration fees,))~~) Monetary civil penalties from
7 snowmobile dealers(~~((,))~~) and snowmobile fuel tax moneys collected under
8 this chapter and in excess of the amounts fixed for the administration
9 of the (~~((registration and))~~) fuel tax provisions of this chapter shall
10 be deposited in the snowmobile account and shall be appropriated only
11 to the state parks and recreation commission for the administration and
12 coordination of this chapter.

13 **Sec. 13.** RCW 46.10.080 and 1982 c 17 s 7 are each amended to read
14 as follows:

15 The moneys collected by the department as (~~((snowmobile registration
16 fees,))~~) monetary civil penalties from snowmobile dealers(~~((,))~~) and fuel
17 tax moneys placed in the snowmobile account shall be distributed in the
18 following manner:

19 (1) Actual expenses not to exceed three percent for each year shall
20 be retained by the department to cover expenses incurred in the
21 administration of the (~~((registration and))~~) fuel tax provisions of this
22 chapter.

23 (2) The remainder of such funds each year shall be remitted to the
24 state treasurer to be deposited in the snowmobile account of the
25 general fund and shall be appropriated only to the commission to be
26 expended for snowmobile purposes. Such purposes may include but not
27 necessarily be limited to the administration, acquisition, development,
28 operation, and maintenance of snowmobile facilities and development and
29 implementation of snowmobile safety, enforcement, and education
30 programs.

31 (3) Nothing in this section is intended to discourage any public
32 agency in this state from developing and implementing snowmobile
33 programs. The commission is authorized to make grants to public
34 agencies and to contract with any public or private agency or person
35 for the purpose of developing and implementing snowmobile programs,
36 provided that the programs are not inconsistent with the rules adopted
37 by the commission.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** No terms, conditions, or requirements of
2 this act may be revised or altered without a vote of the people at a
3 duly called election. Any changes must be approved by a sixty-percent
4 majority of all ballots cast, and a sixty per centum of the number of
5 voters from the preceding general election shall be required.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** The following acts or parts of acts are
7 each repealed:

8 (1) RCW 46.09.110 and 1986 c 206 s 6, 1985 c 57 s 60, 1977 ex.s. c
9 220 s 9, 1972 ex.s. c 153 s 11, & 1971 ex.s. c 47 s 16;

10 (2) RCW 46.16.060 and 1992 c 216 s 4, 1987 1st ex.s. c 9 s 3, 1985
11 c 380 s 13, 1981 c 342 s 8, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 3, 1969 ex.s. c 170
12 s 3, 1969 c 99 s 5, 1965 c 25 s 1, 1961 ex.s. c 7 s 9, & 1961 c 12 s
13 46.16.060;

14 (3) RCW 46.16.061 and 1985 c 380 s 14, 1984 c 7 s 49, & 1963 ex.s.
15 c 3 s 40;

16 (4) RCW 46.16.063 and 1996 c 237 s 1 & 1980 c 60 s 2;

17 (5) RCW 46.16.065 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 4, 1961 ex.s. c 7 s
18 10, & 1961 c 12 s 46.16.065;

19 (6) RCW 46.16.068 and 1993 c 123 s 4;

20 (7) RCW 46.16.070 and 1994 c 262 s 8 & 1993 sp.s. c 23 s 60;

21 (8) RCW 46.16.071 and 1996 c 315 s 4;

22 (9) RCW 46.16.079 and 1986 c 18 s 5, 1975 c 25 s 16, & 1963 c 18 s
23 1;

24 (10) RCW 46.16.085 and 1991 c 163 s 3, 1989 c 156 s 2, 1987 c 244
25 s 4, 1986 c 18 s 8, & 1985 c 380 s 16;

26 (11) RCW 46.16.090 and 1989 c 156 s 3 & 1986 c 18 s 10;

27 (12) RCW 46.16.135 and 1986 c 18 s 12, 1985 c 380 s 19, 1979 ex.s.
28 c 136 s 46, 1979 c 134 s 1, 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 64 s 3, 1975 1st ex.s.
29 c 118 s 6, 1969 ex.s. c 170 s 7, & 1961 c 12 s 46.16.135;

30 (13) RCW 46.16.505 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 11, 1975 c 41 s 1, &
31 1971 ex.s. c 231 s 7;

32 (14) RCW 46.68.030 and 1990 c 42 s 109 & 1985 c 380 s 20;

33 (15) RCW 46.68.035 and 1993 c 102 s 7, 1990 c 42 s 106, 1989 c 156
34 s 4, & 1985 c 380 s 21;

35 (16) RCW 82.44.010 and 1990 c 42 s 301, 1979 c 107 s 10, 1971 ex.s.
36 c 299 s 54, 1967 c 121 s 4, 1963 c 199 s 1, & 1961 c 15 s 82.44.010;

37 (17) RCW 82.44.015 and 1996 c 244 s 7, 1993 c 488 s 3, 1982 c 142
38 s 1, & 1980 c 166 s 3;

1 (18) RCW 82.44.020 and 1993 sp.s. c 23 s 61, 1993 c 123 s 2, 1991
2 c 199 s 220, 1990 c 42 s 302, & 1988 c 191 s 1;
3 (19) RCW 82.44.023 and 1994 c 227 s 3 & 1992 c 194 s 8;
4 (20) RCW 82.44.025 and 1996 c 139 s 3;
5 (21) RCW 82.44.030 and 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 51 & 1961 c 15 s
6 82.44.030;
7 (22) RCW 82.44.041 and 1990 c 42 s 303;
8 (23) RCW 82.44.060 and 1990 c 42 s 304, 1981 c 222 s 12, 1979 c 158
9 s 233, 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 54 s 2, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 14, 1963 c
10 199 s 4, & 1961 s 15 s 82.44.060;
11 (24) RCW 82.44.065 and 1990 c 42 s 305;
12 (25) RCW 82.44.080 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.080;
13 (26) RCW 82.44.090 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.090;
14 (27) RCW 82.44.100 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.100;
15 (28) RCW 82.44.110 and 1997 c 338 s 68 & 1997 c 149 s 911;
16 (29) RCW 82.44.120 and 1993 c 307 s 3, 1990 c 42 s 307, 1989 c 68
17 s 2, 1983 c 26 s 3, 1979 c 120 s 2, 1975 1st ex.s. c 278 s 95, 1974
18 ex.s. c 54 s 4, 1967 c 121 s 2, 1963 c 199 s 5, & 1961 c 15 s
19 82.44.120;
20 (30) RCW 82.44.130 and 1961 c 15 s 82.44.130;
21 (31) RCW 82.44.140 and 1979 c 158 s 237, 1967 c 121 s 3, & 1961 c
22 15 s 82.44.140;
23 (32) RCW 82.44.150 and 1995 2nd sp.s. c 14 s 538, 1994 c 241 s 1,
24 & 1993 c 491 s 2;
25 (33) RCW 82.44.155 and 1993 c 492 s 254, 1991 c 199 s 223, & 1990
26 c 42 s 309;
27 (34) RCW 82.44.157 and 1994 c 266 s 14;
28 (35) RCW 82.44.160 and 1995 c 28 s 1;
29 (36) RCW 82.44.170 and 1990 c 42 s 311, 1987 c 244 s 56, & 1985 c
30 380 s 22;
31 (37) RCW 82.44.180 and 1995 c 269 s 2601;
32 (38) RCW 82.50.010 and 1989 c 337 s 20, 1979 c 107 s 11, 1977 ex.s.
33 c 22 s 6, 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 35, 1967 ex.s. c 149 s 44, & 1961 c 15 s
34 82.50.010;
35 (39) RCW 82.50.060 and 1961 c 15 s 82.50.060;
36 (40) RCW 82.50.090 and 1961 c 15 s 82.50.090;
37 (41) RCW 82.50.170 and 1992 c 154 s 6;
38 (42) RCW 82.50.250 and 1967 ex.s. c 149 s 59;

1 (43) RCW 82.50.400 and 1993 c 238 s 7, 1992 c 154 s 5, 1990 c 42 s
2 320, 1979 c 123 s 1, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 15, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s
3 55;

4 (44) RCW 82.50.405 and 1991 c 199 s 226;

5 (45) RCW 82.50.410 and 1991 c 199 s 225, 1990 c 42 s 321, 1979 c
6 123 s 2, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 16, 1972 ex.s. c 144 s 2, & 1971 ex.s.
7 c 299 s 56;

8 (46) RCW 82.50.425 and 1990 c 42 s 323;

9 (47) RCW 82.50.435 and 1990 c 42 s 324;

10 (48) RCW 82.50.440 and 1979 c 158 s 242, 1975 1st ex.s. c 9 s 2, &
11 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 59;

12 (49) RCW 82.50.460 and 1979 c 123 s 3, 1975 1st ex.s. c 118 s 17,
13 & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 61;

14 (50) RCW 82.50.510 and 1991 c 199 s 227, 1990 c 42 s 322, 1975-'76
15 2nd ex.s. c 75 s 1, & 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 66;

16 (51) RCW 82.50.520 and 1983 c 26 s 4, 1979 c 123 s 4, & 1971 ex.s.
17 c 299 s 67;

18 (52) RCW 82.50.530 and 1993 c 32 s 1, 1981 c 304 s 32, & 1971 ex.s.
19 c 299 s 68;

20 (53) RCW 82.50.540 and 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 69; and

21 (54) RCW 82.50.901 and 1971 ex.s. c 299 s 53.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 16.** If any provision of this act or its
23 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
24 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
25 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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